

WATCH THIS SPACE



We have been so busy we haven't had time to change our ad. in the last few days but will soon.



BRENHAM, TEXAS.

Respectfully Yours,
CATHER & BUSTER.

The Weekly Banner.

JOHN G. BARKIN, Editor and Proprietor.

Brenham, Thursday, Nov. 11, 1897

It is now the general belief that the Cuban question will be referred to Congress for final adjudication.

The best single stroke at golf made by any woman in the United States stands to the credit of a young lady in Kansas City.

JUDGE VAN WYCK, the newly elected mayor of Greater New York, is a native of Anderson county, South Carolina, and is said to be related to the Mavericks, of San Antonio, Texas.

JUDGE VAN WYCK, as mayor of Greater New York, occupies a position second only to that of President of the United States, and will control and dispense more patronage than the governors of any half a dozen States.

ALL the railroads that enter the Union depot at Kansas City, Mo., except one, have agreed to build a new passenger station and terminals on a site one mile south of the business center to cost \$3,000,000 and which will compare favorably with any station in the country.

LIFE is what a man thinks, says the Weatherford Democrat. It is made up of all those processes of observation and reflection that go on in our minds from year to year. The measure and dignity of it depend, therefore, upon the extent and variety of the knowledge that we acquire, and upon the manner in which we use this knowledge as raw material in the higher and more difficult operations of the intellect. The learned philosopher, by as much as he is a learned philosopher, lives vastly more than the savage or the ignoramus. Ignorance and imbecility are a subtraction from life. You might clothe an idiot in purple and fine linen and feed him sumptuously every day without bringing him in speaking distance of the poor scholar whose homely fare is a crust of bread and a cup of water.

SOMETHING ABOUT GOOD TIMES.

"Good times have made the people careless and they did not come out to vote," says Mr. Hanna in explanation of the late republican defeat. This preposterous statement can be accounted for in only one or two ways. Either Mr. Hanna lies about the condition of the country, he knows nothing of it, or there is a vast difference between the condition of the people up there and in the south. I do not believe the latter is the case, for if they were rolling in prosperity, they would create a demand for cotton goods that would make our cotton sell at some price. Then it is impossible for any large portions of the country to enjoy any general prosperity as long as one fourth of the population is suffering as is the south. I have before me a private letter from a man who is cultivating as fine a black land farm as is to be found in the State. The farm in question is worth about \$10,000 and on it the party owes \$3,600, due in long time annual payments, but a failure to pay one installment makes all fall due. Here is what he says:

"The low price of cotton, combined with a short crop have knocked us out in ——— county, unless the Land company carries us this year even without interest being paid. The place, 210 acres in cotton will make about 50 bales. Of this it will take 20 or 25 to pay for picking, ginning etc. At present prices the remaining 25 or 30 bales will bring \$600 or \$700. Deducting the \$300 I pay you and it only leaves \$300 or \$400. Of this amount something like \$150 we have been forced to spend for supplies to make the crop. So you see there will be nothing left to pay even the interest. There is no fault to find with the land. The crop on it is way above the average of the county. The general average is one bale to 5 or 6 acres."

Here is a man who expects to see the fruits of a life time of labor lost for the want of \$360. He has the mules, tools and personal property to cultivate a farm of 300 acres, but can't borrow enough money to pay the interest and save his home. He reads in amazement the stories of a record-breaking cotton crop, and

asks where it is being made? No man can point out a single county that is making an unusually large crop and you hear of large sections where the crop is almost a failure, yet speculators have been able to pile up figures on a guess at a probable yield and run the price far below the cost of production.

Can the people be deceived longer by the cry of prosperity that is carrying want and hunger in its track? After the "crushing defeat" of "Bryanism" the entire press took up the cry of "prosperity is coming." The hum of factories rushed to their utmost filled the air—in the imagination—and the miserable effigy of mankind, Ohio's gifted senator knows no other tune. I believe he really knows no better and honestly believes that his return to the senate is a blessing to mankind.

To the South such prosperity is worse than past adversity, but it must be endured for at least three years more. The gold standard can have no other effect than to depress prices. It is what it was adopted for and experience proves that it works well. I assert that the same conditions prevailing next year as prevail now will see cotton materially lower than it is today and the next year still lower.

In the face of these facts there is but one thing for the farmer to do. It is the same old advice, that has been given him year after year—raise your corn and meat at home, as well as chickens, eggs, etc., and you can hold your own against the gold standard. Don't be deceived by an advance in price of cotton about planting time. Remember you are at the mercy of those of whom W. J. Bryan spoke when he said "you shall not press down on the brow of labor this crown of thorns—you shall not crucify mankind on this cross of gold." No power can change your condition, until you again go the polls to satisfy or reject the gold standard.

VINEX.

In Omaha the city has brought suit to recover one quarter of a million dollars from the street railway company for damage by electricity. A like proceeding is pending in St. Joseph, and the electrical journals are filled with notices of threatened suits of a similar nature in other cities.

The Philosophy of Bargains.

The man who doesn't know anything about modern store-keeping sees the merchant advertising day after day, offering special cut-price bargains. He doesn't investigate, he doesn't think, but he says immediately such a state of things cannot exist, and that the merchant must be a liar and a thief. Nothing is further from the fact. The principle of offering bargains is just as simple as A B C, but the bargains must be genuine if the result is to be satisfactory. Every man in business understands that it is worth something to get a new customer—that it is worth something to get a customer into his store. He is willing to have this done. The merchant has found that the best way of paying for new customers is to give them a real and starting bargain that they will remember. He knows, for instance, that if he advertises 50-cent silks at 19 cents a yard for a certain day, he will crowd his silk department with buyers. He knows from experience that the chances are ten to one that before the silk buyer leaves the store she will remember some other thing she wishes to buy, and this she will buy at the fair and regular price. There is nothing deceptive or dishonest about the bargain counter offer. It is absolutely bonafide, and a woman may avail herself of it if she chooses and go away without purchasing anything else. It is her privilege to do this. If the merchant loses money on this particular lot of silks he considers it as advertising.—Palestine Press.

FREE silver men are rejoicing over the victories achieved at the elections held in Kentucky, Virginia and Nebraska last week, as well as the gains made in Ohio and Maryland, all of which will have a tendency to nerve them on to renewed exertion for their cause in the great contest in 1900. The fight is on and must be kept up to the bitter end.

A SCHOOL in dancing is to be established in the city and the ranks of the trippers of the light fantastic toe promise to be considerably augmented.

Autumn Tints in Dress.

At a recent wedding reception the costumes of the guests seemed to have been dyed in the laboratory of autumn. The rooms repeated the crimson of the oak leaves mixed with green. Then there were all those tawny beautiful shades that are inspired by an infusion of brown. The dark smoke color that is sure to be worn so much throughout the winter quiet formed a background, though usually it was brightened with a rich peculiar violet or with scarlet or with blue that tones into peacock or gray. One very good dress in silk of this color had a plain skirt, which was draped in long folds to cling about the feet, this being one of the newest of the new skirt fancies. The full bodice was of black gauze, with a velvet brocade on it in water-crests green. A narrow front-piece, of material to match the skirt, was laid over this and trimmed elaborately with jet. A broad jet fringe surrounded the waist. With the dress was worn a large gray felt hat, rolled up picturesquely at the side and trimmed with sweeping black plumes.

THE Palestine Press says any rational farmer can figure it out that he would be better off with a crib full of corn, a big bed of sweet-potatoes, a lot full of hogs, a yard full of chickens, good cows, etc., than he is with a few bales of 5 cent cotton. Our land is too good and our resources too great and varied to waste in cotton. Let's reform.

THE Georgetown Signal says: "A man who came to Texas before the railroads and who has watched her develop into an empire, and with her has grown great, filled with undaunted courage of our fathers, he has fought her battles both in field and ripe with wisdom and experience he aspires to be her chief magistrate. Such a man is Joseph D. Sayers."

MR. WM. HOLLE of Zionsville is erecting a gin on his premises. A good portion of the machinery, including the engine and boiler, was hauled out Monday.

THE Germania society will elect officers at its December meeting.

BLAZE AT BURTON.

Large Barn Belonging to H. Knittel, Jr., Reduced to Ashes.

A large barn belonging to H. Knittel, Jr., at Burton, was totally destroyed by fire at four o'clock Tuesday morning. The barn contained upward of two hundred bushels of corn, in addition to a large quantity of other provender, all of which was a total loss. The fire was so far advanced before being discovered that there was scarcely time in which to remove several head of fine horses before the roof fell in. The barn was a brand new structure, having been completed this year at a cost of \$2000. The building and contents are a total loss with no insurance.

The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin. Mr. E. Brown, agent of the Central railroad, is said to have seen some parties loitering in the vicinity of the building previous to the fire. The burning structure was situated so close to Mr. Knittel's residence that very hard work was required to save the latter from destruction.

NOT GUILTY.

Joe Tom Robertson Acquitted of the Murder of C. G. Dement at Giddings.

In the Lee county district court Tuesday the jury who tried the cause of the State of Texas vs. Joe Tom Robertson for the killing of C. G. Dement, brought in a verdict of not guilty.

The killing occurred on the streets of Giddings about a year ago. Both men are well known here.

The trial of Constable Grant for the killing of Tom Wesson will come up today, Wednesday. Hon. Ben S. Rogers and Attorney J. M. Mathis, of this place, have been employed to conduct the defense. The tragedy occurred at the union depot in Giddings while both the Central and Aransas Pass trains were discharging and receiving passengers. Mr. F. C. McIntyre, of this place witnessed the killing and will be called on to testify when the case goes to trial.

THE work of sinking an additional surface well at the water works has been begun.